

**Amendments to the claims:**

1. (Original) A method for forming a barcode character, comprising:  
determining a number of pixels associated with forming at least a first bar and  
a second bar of a first barcode character;  
determining at least one separation width value associated with the first bar  
and the second bar based on the number of pixels;  
generating a second separation width value based on the at least one  
separation width value; and  
forming the barcode character based on the second separation width value.
2. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the number of pixels is  
associated with a dots per inch value of a printing system.
3. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, further comprising:  
obtaining a dots per inch value;  
obtaining a bars per inch value; and  
obtaining a bars per barcode character value, wherein the number of pixels is  
determined based on the dots per inch value, the bars per inch value, and the bars per barcode  
character value.
4. (Original) A method as defined in claim 3, wherein the bars per inch value is  
associated with a barcode reader.
5. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the width of the at least  
one separation width value is less than the width of the second separation width value.

6. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the width of the at least one separation width value is greater than the width of the second separation width value.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~a second barcode character value is generated based on the second separation width value.

8. (Original) An apparatus for forming a barcode character, comprising:  
a processor system including a memory; and  
instructions stored in the memory that enable the processor system to:

determine a number of pixels associated with forming at least a first bar and a second bar of a first barcode character;

determine at least one separation width value associated with the first bar and the second bar based on the number of pixels;

generate a second separation width value based on the at least one separation width value; and

form the barcode character based on the second separation width value.

9. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein the number of pixels is associated with a dots per inch value of a printing system.

10. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein the instructions stored in the memory enable the processor system to:

obtain a dots per inch value;

obtain a bars per inch value; and

obtain a bars per barcode character value, wherein the number of pixels is determined based on the dots per inch value, the bars per inch value, and the bars per barcode character value.

11. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the bars per inch value is associated with a barcode reader.

12. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein the width of the at least one separation width value is less than the width of the second separation width value.

13. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein the width of the at least one separation width value is greater than the width of the second separation width value.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein ~~the a~~ second barcode character value is generated based on the second separation width value.

15. (Original) A machine accessible medium having instructions stored thereon that, when executed, cause a machine to:

determine a number of pixels associated with forming at least a first bar and a second bar of a first barcode character;  
determine at least one separation width value associated with the first bar and the second bar based on the number of pixels;  
generate a second separation width value based on the at least one separation width value; and  
form the barcode character based on the second separation width value.

16. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 15, wherein the number of pixels is associated with a dots per inch value of a printing system.

17. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 15 having instructions stored thereon that, when executed, cause the machine to:  
obtain a dots per inch value;  
obtain a bars per inch value; and  
obtain a bars per barcode character value, wherein the number of pixels is determined based on the dots per inch value, the bars per inch value, and the bars per barcode character value.

18. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 17, wherein the bars per inch value is associated with a barcode reader.

19. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 15, wherein the width of the at least one separation width value is less than the width of the second separation width value.

20. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 15, wherein the width of the at least one separation width value is greater than the width of the second separation width value.

21. (Currently Amended) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 15, wherein ~~the~~ a second barcode character value is generated based on the second separation width value.

22. (Original) A method for creating a barcode character, comprising:  
determining a first number of pixels associated with forming a first barcode character;  
determining a second number of pixels associated with forming a second barcode character;  
comparing the first number of pixels with the second number of pixels; and  
modifying at least one of a plurality of separation spaces associated with the first barcode character based on the comparison of the first number of pixels and the second number of pixels.

23. (Original) A method as defined in claim 22, wherein the first barcode character is associated with a barcode font.

24. (Original) A method as defined in claim 22, wherein the second barcode character is associated with a reading capability of a barcode reader.

25. (Original) A method as defined in claim 24, wherein the barcode reader is associated with a bars per inch value, and wherein the bars per inch value is associated with determining the second number of pixels.

26. (Original) A method as defined in claim 22, wherein the first number of pixels is determined based on a dots per inch value.

27. (Original) A method as defined in claim 26, wherein the dots per inch value is associated with a printing system.

28. (Original) A method as defined in claim 22, wherein modifying the at least one of the plurality of separation spaces includes at least one of removing a portion of separation space and adding a portion of separation space.

29. (Original) A method as defined in claim 22, wherein a width of a first one of the plurality of separation spaces is greater than a width of a second one of the plurality of separation spaces.

30. (Original) A method as defined in claim 22, wherein a width of a first one of the plurality of separation spaces is less than a width of a second one of the plurality of separation spaces.

31. (Original) An apparatus for creating a barcode character, comprising:  
a processor system including a memory; and  
instructions stored in the memory that enable the processor system to:  
determine a first number of pixels associated with forming a first  
barcode character;  
determine a second number of pixels associated with forming a second  
barcode character;  
compare the first number of pixels with the second number of  
pixels; and  
modify at least one of a plurality of separation spaces associated with  
the first barcode character based on the comparison of the first number of  
pixels and the second number of pixels.
32. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 31, wherein the first barcode  
character is associated with a barcode font.
33. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 31, wherein the second barcode  
character is associated with a reading capability of a barcode reader.
34. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 33, wherein the barcode reader is  
associated with a bars per inch value, and wherein the bars per inch value is associated with  
determining the second number of pixels.
35. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 31, wherein the first number of  
pixels is determined based on a dots per inch value.

36. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 35, wherein the dots per inch value is associated with a printing system.

37. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 31, wherein the instructions stored in the memory enable the processor system to modify the at least one of the plurality of separation spaces by at least one of removing a portion of separation space and adding a portion of separation space.

38. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 31, wherein a width of a first one of the plurality of separation spaces is greater than a width of a second one of the plurality of separation spaces.

39. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 31, wherein a width of a first one of the plurality of separation spaces is less than a width of a second one of the plurality of separation spaces.

40. (Original) A machine accessible medium having instructions stored thereon that, when executed, cause a machine to:

determine a first number of pixels associated with forming a first barcode character;

determine a second number of pixels associated with forming a second barcode character;

compare the first number of pixels with the second number of pixels; and

modify at least one of a plurality of separation spaces associated with the first barcode character based on the comparison of the first number of pixels and the second number of pixels.



41. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 40, wherein the first barcode character is associated with a barcode font.

42. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 40, wherein the second barcode character is associated with a reading capability of a barcode reader.

43. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 42, wherein the barcode reader is associated with a bars per inch value, and wherein the bars per inch value is associated with determining the second number of pixels.

44. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 40, wherein the first number of pixels is determined based on a dots per inch value.

45. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 44, wherein the dots per inch value is associated with a printing system.

46. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 40, wherein the instructions stored in the memory enable the processor system to modify the at least one of the plurality of separation spaces by at least one of removing a portion of separation space and adding a portion of separation space.

47. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 40, wherein a width of a first one of the plurality of separation spaces is greater than a width of a second one of the plurality of separation spaces.

48. (Original) A machine accessible medium as defined in claim 40, wherein a width of a first one of the plurality of separation spaces is less than a width of a second one of the plurality of separation spaces.

49. (Original) An apparatus for modifying a barcode character, comprising:

a multiplier;

an adder coupled to the multiplier, wherein the adder and the multiplier are configurable to determine a first number of pixels associated with a first barcode character and a second number of pixels associated with a second barcode character;

a comparator configurable to compare the first number of pixels to the second number of pixels; and

a bar modifier configurable to modify the first barcode character based on the comparison of the first number of pixels and the second number of pixels.

50. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 49, wherein the first barcode character is associated with a barcode font.

51. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 49, wherein the second barcode character is associated with a reading capability of a barcode reader.

52. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 49, wherein the bar modifier modifies the first barcode character by at least one of removing a first portion of separation space associated with the first barcode character and adding a second portion of separation space to the first barcode character.

53. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 49, wherein the first barcode character includes a plurality of separation spaces, and wherein a width of a first one of the plurality of separation spaces is greater than a width of a second one of the plurality of separation spaces.

54. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 49, wherein the first barcode character includes a plurality of separation spaces, and wherein a width of a first one of the plurality of separation spaces is less than a width of a second one of the plurality of separation spaces.